



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Umatilla  
National  
Forest

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**File Code:** 1570-1

**Date:** June 23, 2009

**Route To:**

**Subject:** Disposition of the Appeal on the Walker Mountain Communication Site & Forest Plan Amendment Decision Notice

**To:** Cal Joyner, Appeal Deciding Officer

This memorandum documents my recommendations regarding the disposition of the appeal on the Walker Mountain Communication Site and Forest Plan Amendment Decision Notice. I have enclosed a summary of the appellant's issues, along with a short description of my findings. The appeal review was conducted in accordance with 36 CFR 215 and Regional procedures.

I recommend affirming the decision made by the Responsible Official. I have reviewed the project documentation provided by the Deschutes National Forest and considered the appellant's appeal issues. The decision documentation is consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Forest Management Act, and the Deschutes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended.

I believe that the project analysis adequately supports the decision and is consistent with law and policy. Specifically, the decision to permit construction of a communication tower, associated buildings and access road is necessary to attain consistency with the objectives set forth in the Deschutes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

Appellant Richard Oberdorfer requested that the Responsible Official withdraw the decision and conduct additional analysis, provide additional comment opportunity, provide additional information to support the purpose and need and disclose additional information about demand for communications. Appellant Oberdorfer also requested the Responsible Official not approve any new structures that do not meet the visual quality objective of partial retention.

After reviewing the appeal record, I recommend that the requested relief be denied and the Responsible Official's decision be affirmed on all points. Enclosed with this memo are my responses to each appeal issue.

*/s/ Kevin Martin*  
KEVIN MARTIN  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Joyce Casey



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